



Looking Up in a World of Worry

Jude 17-25

There is so much in our world today that can move us in the direction of worry if we think about it too much. What is it that causes you to move in the direction of worry?

But the Good News is we can look up in a world of worry! What we'll see today was beautifully said by the Dutch holocaust survivor, Corrie Ten Boom:

Look around, and you'll be distressed. Look within, and you'll be depressed. Look at Jesus and you'll be at rest.

Today we'll look at one of the shortest letters in the NT, written by Jude, half-brother of Jesus. Jude writes to Christians who had plenty to worry about. Outside the church was persecution, inside the church false teachers were threatening to bring division...

Today, we'll look at three instructions Jude gives on Looking Up in a World of Worry. Following these will enable us to look up when worry threatens.

1) Keep yourself in the love of God (Verses 20-21).

Jude gives the *what* and the *how*: building, praying, waiting.

Building... Notice the words "**most holy** faith." These words contrast true faith from that of those in Verse 4.

It's one thing for the world to have this mentality, another when it's inside the church!

Praying...

Praying is mentioned so often because we are to pray so often!

The NT writers knew prayer wouldn't be easy!

Waiting... Is unpacked more in the doxology in verses 24-25.

2) Keep others in the care of God (Verses 22-23).

Deal compassionately with those in doubt.

Deal quickly with those in danger.

Deal cautiously with those moving toward destruction.

3) Keep your mind on things above (Verses 24-25).

Here Jude sets his mind on things above.

He doesn't deny the causes of worry in the letter.

But ultimately, he looks up in a world of worry.

And what a reminder he gives- that all glory, etc. be to God!

Look around, and you'll be distressed. Look within, and you'll be depressed. Look at Jesus and you'll be at rest.

How?

By keeping yourself in the love of God.

How? Building... Praying... Waiting...

By keeping others in the care of God.

And by keeping your mind on things above.

There will always be a cause for worry yet we can choose to look up in a world of worry! Write down the powerful doxology in verses 24-25 as a reminder, "God's got this!" He who is able to keep you from stumbling and present you blameless in eternity; the One to Whom all glory, majesty, dominion, and authority has got this (and He's got you!). What a witness of Christ before a worried world!

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